

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please add new claims 16-21, so that the status of the claims is as follows:

1-5. (Canceled)

6. (Previously presented) A multimedia audiometer comprising:

audio circuitry capable of generating audible test tones for delivery to earphones worn by a test subject;

a computer selectively operable to produce instructions represented by sound waves for delivery to the earphones, the computer being operatively coupled to the audio circuitry;

microprocessor circuitry operatively coupled to the computer, the microprocessor circuitry including a central processing unit (CPU) and a memory;

an interface operatively coupled to the computer and the microprocessor circuitry for signaling whether the test subject perceives the audible test tones generated by the audio circuitry;

a switch having a first state in which audible test tones generated by the audio circuitry are provided to the earphones, and a second state in which the instructions represented by sound waves produced by the computer are provided to the earphones; and

software stored in at least one of the computer and the memory of the microprocessor circuitry, the software operating the computer, the microprocessor circuitry, the audio circuitry and the interface to generate the audible test tones for delivery to the earphones, monitor responses by the test subject, detect errors in the test subject's responses, selectively produce the instructions for delivery to the

earphones in response to the detected errors, and to control the switch to switch to the second state when errors are detected in the test subject's responses and to automatically switch back to the first state following delivery of the instructions to the earphones so that testing is resumed without human intervention.

7. (Original) The multimedia audiometer of claim 6, wherein the responses of the test subject are compiled and stored in at least one of the computer and the memory of the microprocessor circuitry.

8. (Original) The multimedia audiometer of claim 7, wherein the software operates the computer, the microprocessor circuitry, the audio circuitry and the interface according to a pre-programmed logical testing procedure.

9. (Original) The multimedia audiometer of claim 8, wherein the logical testing procedure is the Hughson-Westlake procedure.

10. (Original) The multimedia audiometer of claim 6, wherein the software is stored in the computer.

11. (Original) The multimedia audiometer of claim 6, wherein the software is stored in the memory of the microprocessor circuitry.

12. (Previously presented) A computer adapted to perform an audiometric test of a subject, comprising:

a test tone generator operable to deliver audible test tones to earphones worn by the subject;
an input/output interface; and
software programmed to control the test tone generator to deliver the audible test tones to the earphones worn by the subject, monitor responses by the subject received over the input/output interface, detect errors in the subject's responses, selectively deliver audible corrective instructions to the earphones in response to the detected errors, and automatically resume delivery of the audible test tones after the audible corrective instructions are delivered without human intervention.

13. (Original) The computer of claim 12, wherein the software is operable to compile the responses of the subject and store results of the audiometric test.

14. (Original) The computer of claim 13, wherein the software is operable to display and/or print the results of the audiometric test.

15. (Previously presented) The multimedia audiometer of claim 6, wherein the switch comprises a relay circuit.

16. (New) A method of performing an audiometric test of a subject, comprising:
controlling an audiometer to generate audible test tones in a headset worn by the subject;
monitoring responses to the audible test tones by the subject;
detecting errors in the subject's responses to the audible test tones;

storing the detected errors in a computer memory;
automatically producing selected audible corrective instructions in response to the detected errors and switching an input to the headset to the audible corrective instructions; and
automatically switching the input to the headset back to the audible test tones after the audible corrective instructions are produced.

17. (New) The method of claim 16, wherein the steps of controlling the audiometer to generate audible test tones and monitoring the subject's responses are performed according to a logical testing procedure.

18. (New) The method of claim 17, wherein the logical testing procedure is the Hughson-Westlake procedure.

19. (New) The method of claim 16, wherein the step of automatically producing selected audible corrective instructions in response to the detected errors and switching the input to the headset to audible corrective instructions, and the step of automatically switching the input to the headset back to the audible test tones after the audible corrective instructions are produced are performed by a computer.

20. (New) The method of claim 16, further comprising:
displaying and/or printing results of the audiometric test.

21. (New) The method of claim 16, further comprising:
halting the audiometric test when a threshold number of errors is determined.